

PROPOSAL 28

5 AAC 01.170. Lawful gear and gear specifications.

Define beach seine gear specifications in effect when Norton Sound-Port Clarence subsistence fisheries are closed and immediately reopened with the nonretention of specific salmon species, as follows:

5 AAC 01.170(m) is amended to read as follows:

(m) During times when the commissioner determines that it is necessary for the conservation of specific salmon species, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the fishing season in any portion of the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area and immediately reopen the season in any portion of the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area to subsistence fishing with beach seines and require that specific salmon species caught with a beach seine be returned immediately to the water alive[.]; **a beach seine may not be constructed of monofilament web and may not exceed:**

- (1) 50 fathoms in length;**
- (2) 100 meshes in depth;**
- (3) a mesh size of three and one-half inches stretched measure.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently, when the subsistence fishery is restricted to use of beach seine gear with nonretention of a specific salmon species for conservation, there are no specifications of how beach seines can be constructed. Defining beach seine specifications will ensure that beach seines are constructed in a manner that will allow for live release of nontarget salmon species.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F26-022)
